Hello,

I am writing to you today regarding one of my senior athletes, Brighton Snodgrass. I have known Brighton since her freshman year of high school when she joined our high school softball program. She made the varsity team as a freshman. I have learned a lot about her since then, as I see her on a daily basis for close to four months out of the year.

Brighton is a fantastic athlete and one of the more versatile players I have had the pleasure of working with. She has stepped up to play positions that may not have been her favorite, but she did it to help the team, and she did it well. She is a team first player in our program and always has been. Brighton is personable and can talk with anyone. She is extremely well-spoken and is excellent at pausing to find the right words for what she is trying to say. I think that is an incredible ability to have as a high school student.

Brighton is always busy doing something. During her first couple years of high school, Brighton also participated in volleyball (freshman year) and basketball (freshman and sophomore year) in addition to softball. She has held an after-school job for the past two years while balancing school, clubs, and travel softball. Her junior year she worked with our district childcare program, OSCAR. This year Brighton has worked for the Circuit Clerk's Office in the DeKalb County Courthouse. She has also volunteered her time with our program and on her own. She has helped at Pumpkinfest, Feed My Starving Children, Music Booster's craft show, North Grove Elementary's Fun Fair, and for our youth softball program in town, Sycamore Girls Softball.

As busy as she is, Brighton is a terrific student, landing on the high honor roll all four years and earning academic all-conference her freshman, sophomore, and junior years. She is fantastic at managing her time and always likes to be ahead in her studies. It is rare for her to have a missing assignment. She has also been taking aviation courses through our KEC program. It has been a great experience for her, considering this is what she plans to study in college. This program requires her to be dedicated outside of regular school hours, often putting time in on weekends to train. She is part of a business leadership group, National Honor Society and an organization called Whirly-Girls, which is a group dedicated to advancing female helicopter aviation.

I have enjoyed watching Brighton mature as a person and as a teammate over the four years I have coached her. One benefit of having players for four years is you really can see their growth and maturation happen over an extended period of time. Brighton worked very hard as a freshman and knew it was her time to be more of a follower than a leader. She led by example more than anything during her younger years. Now, Brighton has learned to lead more with her words. She is willing to say the hard things that sometimes her peers need to hear. She wants to show the younger players in the program the right way to do things. Not every senior cares much about that. I do think Brighton is someone who wants to leave this program in better shape than she found it. That means a lot to me and to those who will follow her.

Brighton is determined to succeed and pursue her dreams, even if they require a lot of hard work. I know she will represent your organization with class and continue to work hard to show you she is deserving of this opportunity.  I hope you will strongly consider her for this scholarship.

Thank you,

Jill Carpenter
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